

MONTEREY COUNTY LABOR NEWS

A CALIFORNIA LABOR PRESS PUBLICATION

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Official Organ of the Central Labor Union of Monterey County, Salinas, Calif.
Monterey Peninsula Central Labor Council, Monterey, California.
Monterey County Building Trades Council, Monterey, Calif.

PRESS COMMITTEE AT SALINAS

A. A. Harris, Teamsters J. L. Parsons, Barbers R. Fenchel, Laborers

PRESS COMMITTEE AT MONTEREY

Wayne Edwards, Representing Central Labor Council
Dale Ward, Representing Building Council.

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Labor Agreement Here

On one important issue American labor is agreed and that is that the Taft-Hartley law should be repealed. In order to accomplish this repeal it is recognized quite generally that the logical course to pursue in order to accomplish this is to defeat as many as possible of those present members of Congress, who voted for this law, or new candidates, who uphold it and nominate and elect others who stand pledged to vote for repeal and who have a record that gives assurance they will be faithful to that pledge after election in case they are elected.

Now is the most important time for labor to be on its toes to induce dependable and capable candidates to enter the primaries. It is the California primary election, which will be held June 1st, that will do even more than the general election in November to determine how large or how small a factor California labor will be in this Taft-Hartley fight. Only seven of our 23 representatives in Congress voted against the anti-labor law. The other 16 voted for it. Our first opportunity to defeat these 16 will come in the primary. If we don't succeed there we will have another chance in November, provided we have other nominees in the field.

America or Wall Street?

Once in a while we write things like this, but we can't write them as well as Congressman Sabath of Illinois spoke them at the opening session of Congress:

"Undeniably it is the deep-seated dream of Herbert Hoover and John Foster Dulles and other Wall Street representatives that Germany can be made the bulwark against bolshevism."

"The 'poor, wronged Germany' publicity flows from hidden financial wells in the heart of Wall Street."

"It seems to me that Mr. Hoover . . . is only reflecting and supporting the views of John Foster Dulles and his law firm's clientele of German bankers and industrialists. Our own government is unfortunately honeycombed with officials drawn from Wall Street law and brokerage firms. . . . They see everything through a veil of dollar signs."

"It is time for us to forget the short-range profit motives and look ahead. We must not, we dare not, we shall not permit Germany to rearm and grow strong, lest we perish, and the whole world with us."

As they heard these words from Sabath's lips probably four-fifths of the Congressmen present closed their eyes in boredom. Will the American people remain equally impervious to the plea of the statesman from Illinois? The wrong answer can be written in blood.

The Blame For High Prices

You will recollect that for a long time organized labor got the blame for the rising cost of living. But now the tune has been changed—the farmers are now held responsible for the rising cost of food. The official organ of the National Farmers' Union points out:

"There is no relation between the prices the middlemen and speculators offer the farmer, where the Government steps in with the parity program, and the prices the consumer pays at the corner grocery."

"For instance, the Department of Agriculture bought close to 300 million dozen eggs at from 33 to 35c a dozen. What did you pay retail? Up to a dollar a dozen in some areas!"

The same paper goes on to show that apples, selling at 12c a pound in the grocery, bring 4c and less to the farmer. Butterbeans retailing at 29c bring 8c to the farmer. Tomatoes, sold by the farmer for 6c a pound and less, sell for 23c and over.

What, then, is the answer? The answer is that the bulk of the unusual profits go to food processors, manufacturers and distributors.

Our Free Press

An investigator has taken the trouble to pore over the files of the 38 big city papers owned by Hearst and Howard. He finds that during the last year these papers, which daily reach millions of subscribers, have almost totally suppressed news unfavorable to big business and advertisers. He found that during the last 10 years none of the Hearst or Howard papers have crusaded against any vested interests. On the other hand, they are quick to headline any story unfavorable to labor unions or groups sponsoring basic economic reforms. Definition: *Freedom of the press is the freedom of the owner to publish only what he thinks his readers ought to read.*

Our principal fight this political year is to defeat every member of Congress who helped enact the Taft-Hartley law and to elect dependable representatives in their places, representatives who are pledged to vote for its repeal.

If there is any political party that is a real menace to the future of the American people it is a political party which is dominated and controlled by reactionary, anti-labor fanatics.

There is no excuse for any citizen not being registered, who is qualified to vote. A trip to the court house of your county will do it.

If you are qualified to vote make sure that you are properly registered.

BRIGHT BOY



"And whenever he sees a picket line, he walks right through."

Attorney-Gen. Rules Against Placing 'Right-to-Work' Petition on Ballot

(Release from State Federation of Labor)

San Francisco.—The so-called "right-to-work" petition will not be placed on the ballot in the coming election, unless further action is taken by the courts. This is the gist of an opinion issued by the Attorney General's office at the request of Secretary of State Frank M. Jordan, who asked whether the initiative measure titled "Regulating Mode of Collective Bargaining and Solicitation of Labor Union Membership" should be placed on the November, 1948 ballot.

On April 12, 1946, the Attorney General's office issued a title and summary for this measure, and petitions were thereafter circulated for signatures and filed with the various clerks. The initial certified petition was received by the Secretary of State May 9, 1946, which was more than 130 days prior to the general election of November, 1946. On August 26, 1946, the Secretary of State received a supplemental certified petition which apparently established that the measure had received the requisite number of electoral signatures.

In effect, according to the Attorney General's office, the legal question propounded by the Secretary of State was whether or not the measure had lapsed by reason of the fact that such qualification had occurred less than 130 days prior to the general election. The Attorney General's office is of the opinion that this legal question does not arise, since it does not appear that the measure actually qualified.

SIGNATURES DISREGARDED

Investigation revealed that at least 2,434 signatures must be disregarded. This circumstance, according to the Attorney General's office, arises from the fact that the official summary date was April 12, 1946, and under Section 1407 of the Elections Code, all original petitions have to be filed with the county clerks or registrars not later than 90 days thereafter. The deadline for filing the original petition was, therefore, July 11, 1946. The petitions containing the 2,434 signatures, which were presented to the county clerks more than 90 days after the official summary date, should not have been accepted for filing, and therefore should not be included in any computation made for the purpose of determining whether the measure has qualified.

In addition to these technical objections, the opinion of the Attorney General's office points out the Gage v. Jordan case, which held that when an initial certified

petition is received by the Secretary of State's office 130 days or more before a general election, the measure must qualify for the ballot prior to that election; otherwise it lapses. As a result of this opinion, this petition, which was essentially the same as the "right-to-work" measure defeated in the 1944 elections, will not be placed on the ballot. If court action is resorted to by the sponsors of the measure, the Federation will participate in the proceedings as amicus curiae.

Aussie Dockers Take On-Job Action and They Get Their Beer

Sydney, Australia.—Thirsty dockers, loading beer and malt in the hot sun while waterfront hotel keepers tacked up No Beer signs, have extended their shipping boycott, which has effectively blocked export of goods in short supply here.

Taking hotel keepers at their word when they blamed the beer drought on the shortage of malt, the Waterside Workers Federation announced its members would no longer load either beer or malt.

The union felt the "shortage" excuse was phony, charging that beer is available but is being diverted to the black market. The boycott announcement brought immediate results: Breweries and waterfront hotels agreed that the latter would open during the dockers' lunch break and after work to sell beer.

Several Sydney hotels picketed by their customers, have signed agreements with representatives of the pickets to allow them to inspect hotel cellars at any time and to give regular customers a specified issue of bottled beer.

The Great Sacrifice

America is still the land of opportunity, where a man can start out digging ditches and wind up behind a desk—if he doesn't mind the financial sacrifice.

STRIKE OUT



Members of the Chicago local of the American Federation of Teachers (AFL) joyfully toss strike pamphlets in the air after their threat to walk out forced the city council to approve the 1948 budget providing pay boosts. Payless since December 19, the teachers had voted to strike on January 27 unless the city met their demands. Now everybody's happy but the school kids.

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Former Governor Heads Committee To Elect Wallace

New York. — Elmer A. Benson, former Farmer-Labor party governor of Minnesota, will be chairman of a newly formed National Wallace for President Committee, Henry A. Wallace announced here.

Wallace's campaign manager will be C. B. Baldwin, formerly head of the Farm Security Administration and now executive vice chairman of the Progressive Citizens of America.

Other co-chairmen of the committee announced by Wallace are Rexford Guy Tugwell, a leading member of the late President Roosevelt's brain trust, sculptor Jo Davidson and singer Paul Robeson. Davidson is honorary chairman of PCA, the organization which formally set off the Wallace for President movement. Angus Cameron, editor-in-chief of Little, Brown & Co., book publishers, was named treasurer.

Other members of the committee will be announced later, Wallace said.

PA. STARTS PARTY
York, Pa. — Call for a convention to set up a People's Progressive party March 7 was issued here by the Pennsylvania Progressives for Wallace with the support of a number of labor leaders.

Among AFL signers of the call were Secretary Joseph Ruccio of the Allentown Central Trades and Labor Council and Legislative Representative James Tumbely of the Brotherhood of Railway Clerks (AFL).

Other signers were President Alvin Christman of the Pennsylvania Farmers Union, Secretary George Wuchinich of the American Slav Congress and Gerald Schaflander, who resigned recently as political action director of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers (CIO).

HATTERS ASK WITHDRAWAL
Atlantic City, N. J. — The United Hatters, Cap and Millinery Workers (AFL) executive board, meeting here, called on Henry A. Wallace to withdraw from the Presidential race "so there will be no division of progressive forces in 1948."

A resolution adopted by the board's semi-annual meeting said: "The division that will be made in 1948 will affect the direction of history. Therefore, it is essential that all genuine liberal forces work together with labor to overcome the reaction that threatens from the extreme right and the advancing tide of totalitarian aggression that threatens from the extreme left."

FORM MICHIGAN CLUBS
Lansing, Mich. — Michigan Department of State approval of the legal validity of petitions to put Henry A. Wallace on the November ballot in the Presidential column was sought here by Secretary Allen Saylor of the Wallace For President Michigan Committee, with headquarters in the Reid Building, Cadillac Square, Detroit. About 8,000 names of voters are required by state law, distributed among a number of counties.

Wallace clubs are in formation in 24 counties and 35 cities in the state, Saylor, who is former UAW-CIO radio expert, said. They will send delegates to the state conference in Lansing February 21 where a third party is to be set up for Wallace.

Despite AFL and CIO opposition to Wallace's candidacy, both AFL and CIO men in Michigan are planning to attend as delegates.

Un-con-sti-tutional
Philadelphia hotel keepers, who are planning to up hotel rates by 50 per cent during the GOP convention, sent rank-and-file Republicans scurrying to their history books.

"Do you think," one Republican was reported as complaining, "the innkeepers at the time of the Constitutional Convention 150 years ago charged the delegates exorbitant rates in any such manner as seems to be contemplated by the Philadelphia hotel owners of today?"

If they had, the delegates would probably have written price control into the Constitution and the GOP would now be busy drumming up an amendment to repeal it.

SALINAS
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Union Directory

ATTENTION!

Union Directory will be run in the issue of the second week of each month unless lack of space prohibits. All changes, corrections and additions must be received at the newspaper office by the 1st of the month. Clip this directory for reference during the current month.

MONTEREY

BAKERS 24—Headquarters at Labor Temple, 72 N. Second St., Salinas, Sec. and Main Office, Cecil L. Bradford, phone 6341.

BARBERS 896—Meets 1st and 3rd Mondays at 8 p.m. at 315 Alvarado St. Sec. and Main Office, Cecil L. Bradford, phone 6341.

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BRICK MASONS 16—Meets 2nd and 4th Fridays, 8:30 p.m. Sec. and Main Office, Cecil L. Bradford, phone 6341.

BUILDING & CONSTRUCTION TRADES COUNCIL OF MONTEREY COUNTY—Meets 1st Thursday at 8 p.m. at 315 Alvarado St. Sec. and Main Office, Cecil L. Bradford, phone 6341.

CALIFORNIA STATE FEDERATION OF LABOR—Meets 1st Thursday at 8 p.m. at 315 Alvarado St. Sec. and Main Office, Cecil L. Bradford, phone 6341.

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CENTRAL LABOR COUNCIL (Monterey Peninsula)—Meets 1st Thursday at 8 p.m. at 315 Alvarado St. Sec. and Main Office, Cecil L. Bradford, phone 6341.

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SALINAS

BAKERS 24—Meets 3rd Saturday at Labor Temple at 3:30 p.m. Sec. and Main Office, Cecil L. Bradford, phone 6341.

BARBERS 897—Meets 3rd Tuesday at Labor Temple at 8 p.m. Sec. and Main Office, Cecil L. Bradford, phone 6341.

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House Group Reports on Greece

Washington.—Outlining the results of American aid to the Greek royal government, a House foreign aid subcommittee report underlined the difficulty of controlling runaway inflation in that country without curbing so-called free enterprise of the business interests.

Congress should pay attention to the results of the U. S. Greek program, the report said, as a guide to future programs for other lands. The subcommittee was headed by Representative Thomas Jenkins (R., Ohio) and included Representatives Richard Nixon (R., Cal.), James Richards (D., S.C.) and George Mahon (D., Tex.).

Their report, made on the strength of a summer trip to Greece, said the test for continuing aid to any country should be "the success of the recipient government in restoring economic and monetary stability while at the same time maintaining individual freedom."

All foes of living cost curbs in the U. S. and all supporters of the Taft-Hartley law, the four congressmen decried wage demands by Greek unions as "further inflationary pressure." They said, however, that "a major factor" causing high prices in Greece is the small group of businessmen controlling imports.

"Control over distribution of private imports is largely in the hands of a small group who are able to manipulate prices and to withhold goods from the market in order to maximize their speculative profits," the report said.

The drastic December law outlawing strikes and giving penalties up to death for violations was denounced weakly by the report: "The committee is of the opinion that the evils which may result from such a sweeping abrogation of civil liberty may outweigh any possible usefulness of this legislation in meeting the threats of the current civil war."

Although claiming "there is no appreciable support of the guerrillas among the Greek people," the report said that a withdrawal of American military support from the regime of King George would "almost certainly result in the establishment of a communist government."

It urged an all-out effort be launched to drive out the guerrilla force, which is estimated at between 15,000 and 20,000, and said "the Greek government and general staff have in the past failed to take all possible measures in their power to end the guerrilla domination of the country."

About 11 per cent of all couples in private households in the New York area are forced to share homes with other families as a result of the housing shortage.

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Bank Workers' Union
New York.—The United Financial Employees Guild (AFL) was officially designated as bargaining agent for 235 New York Curb Exchange workers after they had picked the union in an NLRB election. A union spokesman said it would seek wage increases ranging from \$9 to \$15 a week.

DEMAND THE UNION LABEL

CARPENTER ROUNDUP

With plans announced for several major building projects and with others believed near, the employment outlook for carpenters of Local 925 of Salinas is continuing to be good, reports Business Manager George Harter of this union.

Construction of the Thrifty Drug Company unit in the new South Main Street development is scheduled to begin next Monday. Contractor is Frank Anderson of Los Angeles.

Plans for rebuilding the Franciscan Hotel with a two-story concrete structure costing some \$300,000 are in the offing, according to reports.

Officials of labor unions were called into a meeting last week to hear discussions on the need for more low-cost housing and rental property in this area and it is hoped that something big for carpenters will come out of these talks.

HAVE YOU REGISTERED TO VOTE? You should register at once and you can register at the Carpenters' Hall, 422 North Main Street, Salinas.

Next meeting of Local 925 will be Tuesday, February 17, at the union hall. All members should be present.

Plans for another wage increase for carpenters are being considered as the costs of living continue to soar. The trend is toward higher wages and contractors throughout the state may be asked to increase pay for the craft.

All members of Local 925 should sign the petitions for reapportionment of the California State Senate. Such petitions are available at the union headquarters.

Report U. S. Officials Pleased by Ruhr Strikes
Berlin. — Three million Ruhr workers and one million workers in the state of Wurttemberg-Baden have threatened to strike in protest over food shortages. The hunger strikes, which have been mushrooming for weeks, were described by U. S. Military Governor General Lucius D. Clay as non-political hunger strikes.

Talk is rampant here that U. S. authorities are not displeased by the strikes because they are trying to convince the people back home of the need to help Germany. American officials, it is pointed out, could quickly stamp out the food shortage by effective moves against the black market.

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Britain Considers Loud-Speaker Ban

London.—Home Secretary Chuter Ede is reportedly considering a ban on the use of loud-speakers at all outdoor political meetings except during an election campaign as a means of mollifying unionists who are demanding that fascist meetings be outlawed. The unionists are making known their opposition to the proposal, pointing out that this would penalize all parties without touching the root cause of the trouble.

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LOCAL 483 REPORTS



HOTEL AND RESTAURANT
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President Harvey Rose, who attended the funeral of our late Brother Fred L. Benson on Wednesday, February 5, reported that the representation from the Union was good, in spite of the heavy rains. It is good to know that many of our number will take the time to pay their last respects to a departed member.

Mr. and Mrs. Walter Scott, owners of Hotel San Carlos, announce the appointment of Mr. Basil R. McAfee as manager of the hotel. Mr. McAfee has managed several hotels and resorts in various parts of the United States during the past several years, and comes to Monterey from Southern California. He has been contacted by your secretary, and expresses his desire for cooperation and excellent relations with the Union and its membership.

OFFICIAL TRIP

Your secretary spent two days away from the office during the past week, and conferred with Union officials in San Jose, San Mateo, San Francisco and the Bay Area regarding various labor problems which affect all of us. The trip was climaxed with a lengthy conversation with Jack Shelley, and C. J. "Neil" Haggerty, president and secretary, respectively, of the California State Federation of Labor. The conditions affecting labor, both favorably and adversely, within the Peninsula area, were discussed, and the full support and cooperation of the State Federation of Labor was promised, should we need help in our future activities. Both Brothers Shelley and Haggerty send their regards to their many friends among the members of Local 483.

The Membership Report to the International Union for the month of January 1948, lists 26 suspensions for non-payment of dues. The great majority of these suspensions, I am certain, have been caused by CARELESSNESS, rather than by lack of the little money required to maintain good standing within our Union. The list of suspensions will be published at the next regular meeting, Monday, February 16 at 2:30 p.m. any of the members who have been thus suspended, and are subsequently found working in Union Houses, will be invited to explain their lack of interest in the Union's—and their own—welfare to the Executive Board of the Local.

NEW BY-LAWS

The new By-Laws of Local 483 have been approved, with minor corrections, by General President Hugo Ernst, and steps are now being taken to have copies printed for each and every member of our Local. It is expected that each member will become thoroughly familiar with all the By-Laws affecting his daily work, and will do his best to insure that the rules are lived up to by all the membership.

The small attendance at our average meeting has been a constant source of worry during the past months of your secretary's term of office. More experienced—and realistic—local secretaries advise me that this is a situation prevalent in nearly all Locals of our International Union. They further state that the apparent lack of interest, exhibited by non-attendance of meetings, is a sure sign of the satisfaction, or at least the acceptance, of the membership of the actions of their designated representatives. I cannot reconcile myself to believing all these remarks to be definite truths, nor shall I so believe. No designated officer of a

Local Union can hope to please all the membership. He (or she) will do well, in fact, to please a slim majority of his group, human nature being what it is. Therefore, there are always bound to be dissatisfied members, who feel for one reason or another that their Local is not being properly handled. One would think that the complaining members, at least, would turn up at meetings to air their views and grievances. But no, the major portion of such complaining seems to be done, as in the past, in public places which have no connection with our Union Hall or office. And the Local itself, instead of being helped and strengthened by constructive criticism, honestly offered in meeting, is only hurt and weakened by this shabby undercurrent of dissatisfaction. It boils down to the old saw of the indignant individual cutting off his nose to spite his face!

We must have many members who have a real, genuine interest in the welfare of their Union—but who constantly and consistently postpone their attendance at meetings. Many of these sincere members are "old timers"—members of long standing, who have watched the activities of the Local, and even attended its meetings, in bygone years, and have grown tired and discouraged. They seem to feel that the younger, newer members should "take over" and "run" the Local. But, alas, the reverse is true. The great majority of our young, new members have started their working careers during the past eight or nine years. They have never lived and worked through a depression, or recession, for example, and, therefore, have not acquired a full realization of the real, down-to-earth URGENT NECESSITY for Labor Organization and UNITY. A Union, to many of these newer members, is primarily a fraternal or social organization. Those of us who battled for existence during that aforementioned depression know full well that such is not the case. Our Labor Unions—Local 483 included, are nothing more nor less than working organizations whose primary concern is bread-and-butter, pork chops, and other essentials of life. The success or failure of each Local Union in its struggles for these essentials is determined, to a very large extent, by the interest and cooperation which the members display to their elected officers. And the primary display of that cooperation is a good attendance of the members at the meetings. But that is just the beginning. Once in the meeting hall, it behooves the good, interested member to bring to the attention of his fellow workers those items of interest to him which he feels will also prove interesting to, and even perhaps of benefit to, the membership at large. Bring up on the floor of the meeting hall ANY item of interest, whether it be for the betterment of Trade Unionism, a political discussion, or a good joke which will fetch a laugh, and thereby brighten the faces of those present. Leave OUTSIDE the Union Hall only your personal enmities or grudges. Personal conflicts may be tolerated in social or fraternal gatherings, to some extent, but there is NO PLACE for such human frailties in the meeting hall of an organization whose primary function is the furtherance of the struggle for our bread and butter.

TWO MORE MONTHS
The present working agreements and wage contracts have just a little more than two months to run. It's up to YOU to get to these meetings EVERY MONTH and let your officers know that you ARE backing their decisions, and you WILL support their actions. If, perchance, you disagree, that is your democratic right, and your officers will accord you their attention while you state your disagreement.

Remember, next regular meeting MONDAY, February 16, 2:30 p.m. GEORGE L. RICE, Secretary.

In agriculture the state of Indiana includes almost every staple crop; in mineral it produces coal, pig iron, petroleum, natural gas and many others. It also ranks high in manufacturing and in its wholesale trade.

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The only Union operated cabs in Salinas are as follows: Salinas Cab Company; phone 5565; Carl's Cabs, phone 5565; Checker Cab Company, phone 7337; Yellow Cab Company, phone 7337. The drivers of these cabs are receiving the benefits of a good Union agreement. When in need of taxi-cab service, call a Union cab.

VETERANS NEWS

Are You a Registered Voter? If not, come in to the union office and register. Labor has a date in '48 to defeat six men in office, such as Representative Bramblett of Pacific Grove who voted for the Taft-Hartley bill.

Your union has voted to support the efforts of the farm workers who are on strike at the Di Giorgio Ranch at Arvin, Calif. This is an AFL union maintaining a 19-mile picket line in a struggle to get decent wages, hours and working conditions. Eleven hundred people are on strike. The strike has been on for four months, so you can readily see the Associated Farmers of California are putting all their resources in the fight to keep from giving farm workers in California decent living standards, using the Di Giorgio Ranch as a proving ground in their effort to keep farm workers out of unions. The AFL and all its affiliated unions are behind this fight 100 per cent.

Furniture and Van Industry: Contract and van negotiations are still going on. Next meeting scheduled for February 12, at which time we hope to receive a suitable offer from the Monterey Bay Drayman's Association.

Produce Industry: The first scheduled meeting will be held the week of February 16 in Salinas with Growers-Shippers. Watch this column for further information.

Vote in '48, and you won't be sorry in '49.

Ice Industry—Salinas: United States Conciliation Service has been notified of our stalemate in these negotiations. A special meeting will be held in the near future; notices will be posted on our bulletin boards at the plants.

Pacific Oil and Burner: Negotiations are still going on, and we hope to have a settlement real soon. You will be notified when a suitable offer is forthcoming from this company.

Tire Industry: Another meeting is scheduled for February 12 with employers to try to reach an agreement. You will be notified of any legitimate offers.

Spiegel Foods: A meeting has been arranged with the company to adjust wages, along with the increase granted by California Processors and Growers as of January 1, 1948. Watch this column for further information.

Note of Interest: In Watsonville last week, the Ice Industry employers asked the U.S. Government to hold a secret ballot election among their union employees, as the employers thought the men no longer wanted the union. (The Taft-Hartley Act gives the employer the right to try to break the unions this way.) The result of this election—you guessed it—100 per cent vote in favor of the union. These members have not forgotten the long days and the small pay they used to get before they had their union.

Do you know of any of our members who are not receiving the paper? If so, please notify this union. Phone 4893 so we may put them on the mailing list.

Have you left your blood type at the union office? This is very important, as a brother or sister member may need a blood transfusion and we can help them immediately if we have this information.

Buy union-made goods; support only those firms displaying the union label. Wear your union buttons, and make sure the persons you work with are members of the union.

Live up to your union contract. If the employer is violating it, notify the union. Ask for Pete Bud, Glen or Al. These representatives will take care of your grievances. Copies of all agreements are available at the union office. If agreements are not posted at the plant where you are employed, notify the union office so we can post them immediately.

Brother Andrade has been having a bout with Virus X, but is on the mend.

Pick up free book matches at the office of the union. Ask the office girls for them.

Again, if you need a taxicab, call Yellow, Checker, Salinas, or Carl's cabs, phone 7897 or 5565.

Lombardo Expelled; Mexican Trade Unions Split

Mexico City. — The recent expulsion of Vicente Lombardo Tolezano and three other leaders by the Mexican Confederation of Labor (CTM) national executive board has brought to the surface a smoldering split in the Mexican union body.

Lombardo's expulsion was recommended by CTM Gen. Sec. Fernando Amilpa. He denounced Lombardo for helping to organize a third political party, the Popular Party, which aims to swing labor's support away from the government party, the Revolutionary Institutional party (PRI).

Lombardo, who is also president of the Latin American Federation of Labor (CTAL), accepted the post of president of the new party's national coordinating committee and three other CTM leaders assumed Popular party leadership roles.

Amilpa, a deputy to the Mexican Congress on the PRI ticket, announced his opposition to the Popular party, which he called "red," and insisted that the entire CTM remain in the PRI.

Special membership meetings have been held by unions in all parts of the country to discuss Lombardo's expulsion and the third party movement. So far, meetings representing 800,000 of the CTM's 1,200,000 members have endorsed Lombardo's stand and denounced Amilpa and the national board as "arbitrary and dictatorial."

The three most powerful unions in Mexico, the railroad workers, miners and oil workers—totaling 500,000 members—have decided jointly to organize a new union center in opposition to the CTM. CTM state councils in the states of Veracruz, Sonora, Caxaca and New Leon, plus numerous individual unions, have announced their opposition to the CTM national leadership.

Union congresses have pointed out that Lombardo's expulsion violates a resolution passed by the CTM's 6th national convention two years ago. It stated that at as early a date as possible, Mexican labor, for its future welfare, must form a political party distinct from the government party.

The Popular party does not yet exist formally since its first constitutional convention takes place in May. Many unions, however, have already requested affiliation. The railroad, mining and petroleum unions have stated: "We will affiliate to the party that best serves the interests of the workers," with the clear implication that they mean the Popular party.

Radio Station Censorship Out

Washington. — A radio station may not censor the content of a political broadcast, the Federal Communications Commission ruled even when the station management considers the material to be broadcast will be considered libelous.

Protecting the station against the possibility of a lawsuit, the FCC said: "The actual speaker is, of course, completely liable for the contents of his remarks."

The decision was made after a study of the action of station WHLS in Port Huron, Mich., in turning down applications for political broadcasts in a 1945 city election. Finding itself in the embarrassing middle of a municipal controversy, the station, trying to protect itself, denied the community the right to hear election issues broadcast.

The FCC ruling said flatly: "We are of the opinion that the prohibition against any censorship by licensees (stations) of political speeches by candidates for office is absolute, and no exception exists in the case of material which is either libelous or might tend to involve the station in an action for damages."

The FCC ruling is regarded here as important in view of the coming hot 1948 election fight, with the Taft-Hartley law, labor political action and third party movements behind the independent candidacy of Henry A. Wallace adding spice to the regular Democratic-Republican struggle.

Station censorship of labor programs was brought to the fore in December when the CIO protested to FCC over the arbitrary action of station WFOR in Hattiesburg, Miss. WFOR had cut off a CIO discussion on civil liberties, claiming the material under debate was "too controversial."

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Save Electricity

The drought has brought about an emergency in the state's power supply!

We are compelled to ask our customers to curtail the use of electricity in their business establishments, on their farms and in their factories.

HERE'S HOW YOU CAN HELP

IF YOU RUN A COMMERCIAL ESTABLISHMENT:

1. Turn off all window lights and electric signs.
2. Use no exterior or interior floodlighting.
3. Use electric power elsewhere only when necessary.

IF YOU RUN A FACTORY:

1. Curtail power consumption wherever you can.
2. Avoid use of electricity between the hours of 4 and 8 p.m., the peak load hours, shifting operations to other hours wherever possible.
3. Check your factory and offices to eliminate all waste of electric power.

IF YOU ARE AT HOME:

1. Light no unused rooms.
2. Use appliances for as short periods as possible.

IF YOU ARE A FARMER:

1. Shut down your pumping plants wherever possible between 4 and 8 p.m., shifting your irrigation schedule to other hours of day or night.
2. Use electrically-powered equipment only when absolutely necessary.

BECAUSE of the record drought there is an abnormal irrigation pumping load in the rural areas. In Northern and Central California this unreasonable demand for electricity now approximates 200,000 horsepower and comes at a time when under normal conditions our system load would be decreasing. The situation in the valleys would, of course, be relieved by heavy rain. Until such relief comes we must ask our customers to curtail their use of electricity in every possible way. Our customers can be assured that we have done and will continue to do everything possible to meet the problems brought about by the record drought.

EVERY KILOWATT HOUR YOU SAVE WILL CONTRIBUTE TO THE GENERAL WELFARE

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